Bible & Daily Living

Faith gets one through life's white-water rapids

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Faith For Trying Times
Lesson For May 22, 1983
Bible Study Passages - Acts 22:30 - 23:11
Introduction

Life is never lived without facing some kind of crisis. Jesus never promised his disciples that life would be a "Primrose Lane." Life may be compared to canoeing down a swift-water river. Along the way there are many beautiful sights, and around every bend in the river new surprises. But there are hazards to maneuver through if one is going to have a successful journey. These hazards may prove to be both frightening and challenging.

To have a successful journey through the hazards one must remain watchful and alert. One must also know how to control the boat and make good use of the paddle.

Life is often fraught with hazards along the way. Sometimes it requires great faith in God and self to survive the crises of life. Tragedy and loss are common events in the pilgrim's journey.

We can make it if we use the resources of our faith. Too often we tend to use our faith resources the way we use our physicians, that is, we wait until things get our of hand before we make an appointment.

This week's lesson looks at how Paul faced the hostility of the Jews and boldly defended the Gospel.

Charges Against Paul [Acts 21:17 - 22:30]

Paul was often accused of encouraging Jewish converts to forsake all of their traditional customs. Paul's influence was significant, therefore, he was seen as a threat to the Jewish foothold. But Paul was not out to totally wipe out Judaism and Jewish customs. His mission was to introduce Jews to the Christian faith as the fulfillment of God's plan.

At one point Paul was dragged out of the temple to face death, but his life was spared due to the intervention of the commander of the Roman garrison that kept watch over Jersalem.

Paul faced further threats to his life when he spoke about his ministry among the Gentiles. Had it not been for the intervention of the Roman commander, Paul may have been stoned by the angry mob.

Paul Before The Sanhedrin [Acts 23:1-9]

In this passage we find Paul taking on the high priest Ananios. Of course, in Jewish law it was considered a no no to take on the high priest. That would be akin to taking on God! Paul's anger at the crowd was reflected in his strategy to play one religious faction against the other.

The Pharisees and Saducees were divided over the issues of resurrection. The Pharisees had a belief in life after death while the Saducees did not. In joining with the Pharisees Paul made them his allies.

Support From The Lord [Acts 23:10-11]

Paul was never immune from trials and hazards during his missionary journey. In fact, God never promises us that life will be void of insecure moments or tragic events. He does promise, however, to be with us when we are between "a hard place and a rock."

It is comforting to know that God is with us as we meet and face the hazards of life. It is further comforting to know that even after the storms subside God blesses us with His continued presence. In the midst of those dark nights of the soul we can still sing of God's presence in the past, present and future. It doesn't require too much faith to sing in the daytime, but it may require significant stretching of our faith to sing the songs of Zion when all is dark.

In this world of unceasing darkness and brokenness, we can discover that our faith will give us light to complete our journey. It is also comforting to know that Christ travels with us; he is not a remote saviour, for off in a distant galaxy looking down on the events of our life He is behind us, beside us, and out in front of us.

Bill Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Ill. (WLYO)

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Choir clebration slated

The Senior Choir of Mt. Obed Baptist Church will celebrate their anniversary Sunday, May 22 at 3 p.m.

Special guest at the occasion will be the Men's Chorus of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Red House. Also appearing in the program will be Mr. Bobby Jones and other local talents.

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THE REV. MELVIN WINTERS, (left), Appomattox Baptist Association Director of Missions and Ministries is shown with Bill Caldwell, center, who is responsible for new sign over doorway to office. On the right is Mrs. Louise Roach, part-time secretary to the association. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

ABA is 179 years old

The Appomattox Baptist Association, Southern Baptist affiliated, was organized in 1804 at Walker's Baptist Church, Hixburg, Virginia. This church building no longer exists, but the members of this church moved memberships to Elon Baptist Church, Pamplin, Virginia.

For 179 years the Appomattox Baptist Association has been in existance. The Association is now composed of 28 churches in Appomattox, Champbell, Charlotte and Prince Edward. There are 22 full-time churches and six two-field churches.

In 1977, the clerk, Miss Elizabeth Singleton, and the treasurer, W.L. Harris, retired. The Association took a step toward establishing the Director of Missions position. Since the clerk and treasurer were retiring, one individual was hired to serve as clerk/treasurer, and as part-time secretary to the association.

At this time a personnel committee was formed and applications were received for the position. An office space was secured in the building owned by John Curtis and Vivian Caldwell. Mrs. Louise D. Roach was hired for the position in May 1977, and has served since that time. The association felt this to be one step towards a Director of Missions, having the associational goals were set concerning the hiring of a Director of Missions. With the 28 churches working together the Association was able to call the Rev. Melvin E. Winters as Director of Missions and Ministries in July, 1982.

The office was relocated in December 1982 to ground level, providing easier access to the office and more space. The associational office provides a central location for the 28 churches. It is a place where communication can go out to all churches and also a place where audio visuals can be kept. All of the 28 churches have access to these and other materials.

Recently, a sign was completed and placed at the office so people can locate the office more easily. Bill Caldwell was responsible for having the sign made and installed. Patricia Elder did the lettering.

May 15-22 has been designated as Associational Empahsis Week and the theme is "The Association: A Family of Churches". In the Appomattox Baptist Association the family of 28 churches consists of 7,146 members, a family that can work together, build together, grow together. It's a family that has a tradition of being strong, stable and faithful. It has a calling and a commitment not only to stay together, but also to be on mission together.

TIMES-VIRGINIAN
P.O. Box 2097, Appomattox, Virginia 24522
804/352-8215

THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN (USPS 630-800) is published weekly on Thursday. Second-class postage paid at Appomattox, Virginia 24522. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Times-Virginian, P.O. Box 2097, Appomattox, Virginia 24552. Subscription rates: $10.00 per year in Appomattox and all adjoining counties; $14.00 per year out-of-area.

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A Quality Paper of Atlantic Publications, Inc. Accomac, Virginia 23301

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Obituaries

William A. Booker

William Alexander Booker, age 64, of Oxen Hill, Maryland, died at Bethesda Naval Medical Center Tuesday, May 10, 1983.

Born in Appomattox County, he was a member of Liberty Chapel Church.

He entered the United States Army in February of 1942, one of the first men to leave for the armed forces from Appomattox County. After completing 20 years with the army he began work for the navy as a civil service employee. During his time in the armed forces he served in various Army posts in the United States, Europe and the Far East. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal with Bronze Clasp and 3 Loops, World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany and Japan Clasps), National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal with 3 silver star, United Nations Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Motor Vehicle Badge.

He is survived by his wife Josephine Murry Booker, and the following brothers and sisters: Olivia Ewing of Roseland, Va.; Alice Viatkus, Virginia Beach; Bernie Arnold, Newport News, Va.; George E. Booker of Gladstone; Malcolm A. Booker of Gladstone; and Robert C. Booker of Joplin, Missouri.

Graveside Military Service was held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Crewe Cemetery.

James Cicero Brown

James Cicero Brown, departed this life Saturday morning, May 14, at his residence.

Born in Lynchburg, he was the son of James and Annabelle Brown. His wife is Sharon Lee Brown.

In addition to his parents and wife, he is survived by a son, James Matthew Brown; a brother, Glen Brown, Concord; three sisters, Mrs. Carlesia Melvin and Muriel Mickles, both of Lynchburg, and Mrs. Denise Mason of Hawaii; and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at 4 p.m. in Pleasant Valley Baptist Church. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Arrangements were by Carl R. Hutcherson Funeral Home.

P.M. [Jasper] Gunter Jr.

Paul Mitchell (Jasper) Gunter Jr., 27, of Route 3, Appomattox, died suddenly Monday morning, May 16, in Roanoke as the result of an accident.

Born in Lynchburg Feb. 27, 1956, he was the devoted son of Paul M. Gunter Sr. and Pauline Kress Gunter of Appomattox. He was the fiance of Becky Y. Simmons. He was a truck driver for J.S. Bryant Trucking Co.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by five sisters, Brenda G. Smith, Fork Union, Donna L. Gunter, Lynchburg, and Rebecca G. Shelton, Kimberly D. Gunter and C.Hope Gunter, all of Appomattox; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Gunter, Appomattox; five nieces and nephews; and he also was the grandson of the late Mrs. Vina R. Kress.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Robinson Funeral Home. Burial followed in Pleasant Grove Baptist Church cemetery.

John E. Hudson

John E. Hudson, 16, of 308 Linwood Court, Stephens City, died Tuesday, May 10, 1983, at Winchester Memorial Hospital as a result of an automobile accident.

He was born in Lynchburg May 18, 1966, a son of Freddie E. and Carole Wiles Hudson. He attended Fellowship Baptist Church, Winchester.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by three sisters, Cynthia Hudson of U.S. Air Force, Sunnyvale, Calif., Mrs. Lisa Williams of Middletown and Jennifer Hudson of Stephens City; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John V. Hudson of Lynchburg; maternal grandmother, Mrs. Dorothy McMaster of Concord, and maternal grandfather, Joseph B. Wiles, and maternal great-grandmother, Mrs. Harriett Wiles, both of Seneca.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at 7 p.m. at Jones Funeral Home, Winchester.

Graveside services were held Friday at 10 a.m. in Virginia Memorial Park.

Floyd Alexander Massie Sr.

PINEY RIVER - Floyd Alexander Massie Sr., 70, died at 10:30 p.m. Friday, May 13, in Virginia Baptist Hospital. He was the husband of Doris Adams Massie.

Born in Amherst County, he was a son of the late Alonzo Clinton Massie and Mary Campbell Massie. He was retired from Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., and was a member and deacon of Rose Union Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Floyd Alexander Massie Jr., Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; a daughter, Mrs. Thomas F. (Joan) Parr, Tabb; two brothers, Ryland Massie, Severn, Md. and Raymond Massie, Concord; five sisters, Mrs. Menden Campbell, Concord, Mrs. Charles Jansky, Pasadena, Md., Mrs. Nelson Searles, Baltimore, Md., Mrs. George W. Pritner, Oklahoma City, Okla., and Mrs. Michael Andrews, Ellicott City, Md.; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Monday at Rose Union Baptist Church, with burial in Amherst Cemetery.

Piney River Funeral Home was in Family and Children Services in information and referral center of

Thelma Harper Woodruff

Thelma Harper Woodruff died Friday, May 13, at her home, Apt. 74, in Princeton Circle West Apartments, Lynchburg. She was the widow of Herbert Bradford Woodruff.

She was born in Gladys April 3, 1905, a daughter of the late James Elijah Harper and Eunice Carwile Harper. She was a member of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, member of the League of Women Voters, a board member of Catholic Family and Children Services in Roanoke, and helped organize the information and referral center of Central Virginia. She was educated in Campbell County Public Schools and attended Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. She was a former supervisor of Raytheon Manufacturing Co. and had retired after 25 years as manager of Peck & Peck ladies' apparel show in Belmont, Mass.

She is survived by a stepdaughter, Mrs. Lawrence Washington, Alexandria; two sisters, Mrs. Owen Franklin, Concord, and Mrs. Alfred W. Gunter, Lynchburg.

Memorial services were conducted from Diuguid Rivermont Chapel at 3 p.m. Sunday by the Revs. Anthony Warner and Marjorie Mueleman.

Musical set

The Children's Choir of Liberty Baptist Church, directed by Mrs. J. Franklin Vaughan, will present a musical, "Jonah, The Runaway," by Joe Parks on Sunday evening, May 22 at 7:30. It will be accompanied by orchestration tape. The Children's Bell Choir will also ring.

The four and five year old choir will also participate in the program.

Area residents are cordially invited to attend.

Children II Choir members are Jeff Shirey, Robbie Jones, Cathy Torrence, Beth Scott, Rick Scott, Danny Richardson, Matt Richardson, Brian Canada, Brett Stratton, Jeff Stratton, Brent Harrison, Nathan Lee, Bobby Swansburg, Al Castaro, Angie Dawson, Jennifer White, Gina Cestaro, Daryl Dawson, Niki Harris, Stacey O'Brien, Rob Williams, Shannon Williams, Jennifer Tweedy, Becca Carter, Roxanne Williams, Lara Williams, Tara Johnson, Jay Stubblefield, Robbie Coleman, Wade Mays, Chris Smith and Thomas Nolen.

Four and five year old choir members are Stephanie Harris, Samuel Williams, Thomas Mays, Mike Gillette, Matthew White, Traci Fisher, Jamie Dawson, Brandon Lee, Drew Smith and Angie LeGrand.

Mrs. Michael Raymond Reynolds

Conner, Reynolds wed

The marriage ceremony uniting Cheryl Denise Conner and Michael Raymond Reynolds, both of Appomattox, took place the evening of May 14 at seven o'clock in Liberty Baptist Church with the Rev. James Williams, pastor of Liberty Chapel Baptist Church officiating and Dr. Daniel E. Scott, pastor of the church, assisting.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Conner, Jr. of Appomattox. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie C. Reynolds, Sr. also of Appomattox.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She wore a colonial style gown of white chiffon and Venise lace with medallions and cameos gracing the dropped shoulder bodice. The double skirt of chiffon swept in a circle from the bridal-pointed waist to a cathedral length train. Her schiffle veil was attached to a saucer hat trimmed with seed pearls. Cheryl carried a cascade bouquet of miniature white roses, lily-of-the-valley, and baby's breath, graced with ivy and adorned with an antique lace handkerchief.

Mrs. Brenda Nash Chandler, of Appomattox, cousin of the bride, was matron of honor. She wore a colonial style dress fashioned of lavender misty printed lawn. Brenda carried a lavender lace drawstring bag accented with sweet violets and lily-of-the-valley. For her hairpiece she wore a comb of matching flowers.

Bridesmaids were Mrs. Debbie Washburn, sister of the groom, Mrs. Linda Almond, Miss Lorna Goin, all of Appomattox and Miss Valda Leftwich of Bedford. Their dresses were identical to that of the honor attendant but in lavender misty solid lawn. They carried matching drawstring bags. The Junior Bridesmaid was Miss Stacie Reynolds, niece of the groom. She wore a lavender dress simiiiar to the bridesmaids. They wore matching headpieces.

Miss Valerie Harvey of Appomattox, cousin of the bride, was flower girl. She wore a white and lavender mid-calf length dress. She carried a white wicker basket of sweet violets.

Master Aaron Chandler of Appomattox, cousin of the bride, was ring bearer. He wore black linen smallclothes and a white ruffled shirt. Aaron carried a pillow made from an antique lace doily.

Mr. Lonnie C. Reynolds, Jr. of Appomattox was best man for his brother. Ushers were Frankie Hunter of Red House, Lewis Martin, Darrell Conner, brother of the bride, Harold Cheatham and Bruce Washburn, brothers-in-law of the groom, of Appomattox.

Mrs. Judy Conner, mother of the bride, wore a crepe Georgette dress of pale aqua. She wore a handmade corsage of the same material.

Mrs. Lonnie Reynolds, mother of the groom, wore a pale pink crepe Georgette dress. She wore a corsage of white carnations.

Mrs. Charlene Nash of Lynchburg was mistress of ceremonies. Attending the guest register were Miss Donna Hodges of Pamplin and Miss Pam Conner of Lynchburg. Programs were distributed by Masters Timmy and Rodney Cheatham, Master Craig Washburn and Master Chris Reynolds.

A program of nuptial music was provided by Mrs. Sandra Mitchell and Mrs. Charlene Lawson. Selections included "Truly", "You and I", and "The Wedding Prayer".

The baskets of fresh flowers were arranged by Mrs. Edith Nash.

Following the ceremony a reception was held in the fellowship hall. Refreshments were served to the guests by Mrs. Delores Cheatham, Miss Sherri Hayden, Mrs. Edith Thornhill, Miss Sarah Hayden, Mrs. Margaret Garrison, Mrs. Elsie Burrell, Mrs. Betty Seay, Mrs. Faye Davis and Alice Jones.

The bride is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and is attending Old Dominion University of Norfolk.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and is attending Paul D. Camp Community College in Franklin. He is employed by Continental Telephone Co. in Franklin.

The couple will reside in Suffolk after a wedding trip to Aruba.

Patterson wedding planned

Mr. James R. Patterson of Pamplin announces the engagement of his daughter, Juanita Mae, also the daughter of the late Mrs. Ida J. Patterson, to Vernie Mitchell Lewis, son of Mrs. Ida P. Lewis of Appomattox and the late Mr. Claude J. Lewis.

Miss Patterson is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and received an A.A.S. degree in medical record technology from Central Virginia Community College. She is employed by Camelot Hall Nursing Home and Lynchburg

Juanita Mae Patterson

General-Marshall Lodge Hospitals.

Mr Lewis was graduated from Appomattox County High School. He is an employee of J.B. Moore Air Freight Company.

The wedding is planned for July 2 at 2 p.m. in Zion Baptist Church of Pamplin. All relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Shower honors couple

A housewares shower was given in honor of Debbie Roach and Jimmy Lakes on April 29 in the fellowship hall of Rocks Baptist Church.

Hostesses for the event were aunts of the groom-elect, Mrs. Joyce Thacker and Mrs. Mary Woods.

Among those attending were Mrs. Louise Roach, mother of the bride elect; Mrs. Faye Webber, mother of the groom elect; Mrs. Rachel Ranson and Mrs. Erna Roach, grandmothers of Debbie; Mrs. Lakes and Mrs. Katie Dewitt, grandmothers of Jimmy, and friends and relatives of the couple.

Shower honors two

Mrs. Carter Fitzgerald and Miss Nancy Gillespie entertained on Thursday afternoon, May 12 in the Gillespie home with a personal bridal shower honoring Miss Lina Trent and Mr. Earl Houser.

Guests included Mrs. Florence Trent, mother of the bride elect and local friends from Piedmont Airlines.

The TrentHouser wedding will be an event of the afternoon of June 11 at Liberty Baptist Church.

Meadowlark Club meets

The Meadowlark Homemakers Club held their regular monthly meeting in the home of Mrs. Janet Noble. Although the club is small they enjoy many projects together. They have visited Pineview Rest Home twice as a part of their club activities.

The club is in the process of selling tickets for a bedspread; tickets are $1.00 each and the proceeds will go toward a scholarship fund that will enable some boy or girl to attend 4-H Camp.

One new member was welcomed into the club, and the club extends a cordial invitation to anyone who would like to join. The next meeting will be held at the home of Annie Humbles.

Following the adjournment of the meeting, members worked on their craft projects.

'Hearts' to meet

The Young Hearts Club will meet Wednesday, May 25 at 10:30 a.m. at New Hope Baptist Church.

Please bring your musical instruments, and let's have a good crowd. There will be a small gift for each person present.

Please meet at Memorial United Methodist Church for pooling rides.

Flower 'feature' set

It takes a lot of time, planning, effort and hard work to stage a Standard Flower Show, which the Appomattox Garden Club has been doing for many years. It is not only a "Thing of Beauty", a challenge to it's members, but an opportunity for flower growers and lovers of flowers to view artistic arrangements and outstanding horticultural specimens.

Mrs. Margaret Shields and Mrs. Kitty Sears, chairman and co-chairman of this year's forthcoming show, have been working and meeting with committee chairman since January. Every member of the Garden Club will have a part in the staging of the show. The committee chairman are as follows: Awards and Clerks, Mrs. Ann Pittman; Classification and Placement, Artistic Division, Mrs. Ann Robinson; Horticulture Division, Mrs. Margaret Dudley; Educational Exhibit, Mrs. Shirley Walton; Hostesses, Mrs. Edith O'Brien; Judges and Judges Hospitality, Mrs. Ann Staples; Publicity, Mrs. Emily Burke; Staging and Properties, Mrs. Ann Kerr; Entries, Artistic Division, Mrs. Sandy Wilbun; Horticulture Division, Mrs. Lucille Ferrell; Schedule, Mrs. Margaret Shields.

There will be an educational exhibit, with information on growing roses, slides will be shown throughout the evening of roses in bloom is some of the gardens in Appomattox, also an exhibit to promote "Litter Control".

"All The World Loves A Rose" will be the theme of the show, featuring roses in all the artistic arrangements. Roses will also be featured in the Horticultural Division, along with other blooming flowers and shrubs. The show will comply in every way with standards of National Council of State Garden Clubs Inc. for a Standard Flower Show. It will be judged by national accredited judges, from out of town.

The show will be held in the Social Hall at the Memorial United Methodist Church Saturday, June 4 from 3 to 9 p.m. Admission to the show will be by silver offering.

Roach, Lakes to marry

The marriage of Deborah Lea Roach to James Lloyd Lakes will take place on Saturday, May 21 at 4 p.m. in the Rocks Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Pamplin.

Debbie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Aulden Roach of Pamplin and Jimmy is the son of Mrs. Clyde Webber of Pamplin and Curtis Lakes of Lynchburg.

All friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend. A reception will follow the ceremony.

Wedding set

The wedding of Miss Denise Renee McCormick and Mr. Ralph Christian Totty Jr. will take place on Saturday, May 21 at 7 o'clock in the evening at Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Peter Hale officiating.

The reception will be held in the church fellowship hall immediately following the ceremony. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Tea honors Deborah Roach

On Sunday, May 15, a tea honoring Deborah Lea Roach was given in the home of Mrs. Kathleen Lakes, Lynchburg. In addition to Mrs. Lakes, Kelly Lakes, cousin of the groom elect, and attendant in the forthcoming wedding, was also hostess for the event.

Among those attending were Mrs. Louise Roach, mother of the bride elect, Mrs. Faye Webber, mother of the groom elect, Mrs. Kate DeWitt, grandmother of the groom elect, and friends anu relatives of the couple.

Birth announced

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Gowin announce the birth of their daughter, Lori Diana, born May 3, 1983 at Virginia Baptist Hospital. She weighed five pounds and fourteen ounces and was twenty inches long. Lori has a three year old sister, Stacey Lynn.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Carl N. Ferguson. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James A. Gowin. Paternal great grandmother is Mrs. E. Taylor Layne, Sr., all of Appomattox.

Miss Bugg honored

Miss Nadine Bugg, bride-elect, was honored with a miscellaneous bridal shower, Sunday, May 15, at the Appomattox Rescue Squad Building. Hostesses for the shower were her aunts, Clarine Mays, Frances Guill, Evelyn Chernault, and close friend, Eita O'Brien.

Those in attendance were Ms. Faye Bugg, mother of the bride, Ms. Mary Kestner, grandmother of the bride, and Mrs. Patricia Blakely, mother of the groom, and a host of friends and relatives.

The bride received many nice and useful gifts. The Bugg-Blakely wedding will be an event of June 25, 1983, at 2:00 p.m., Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox, VA.

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